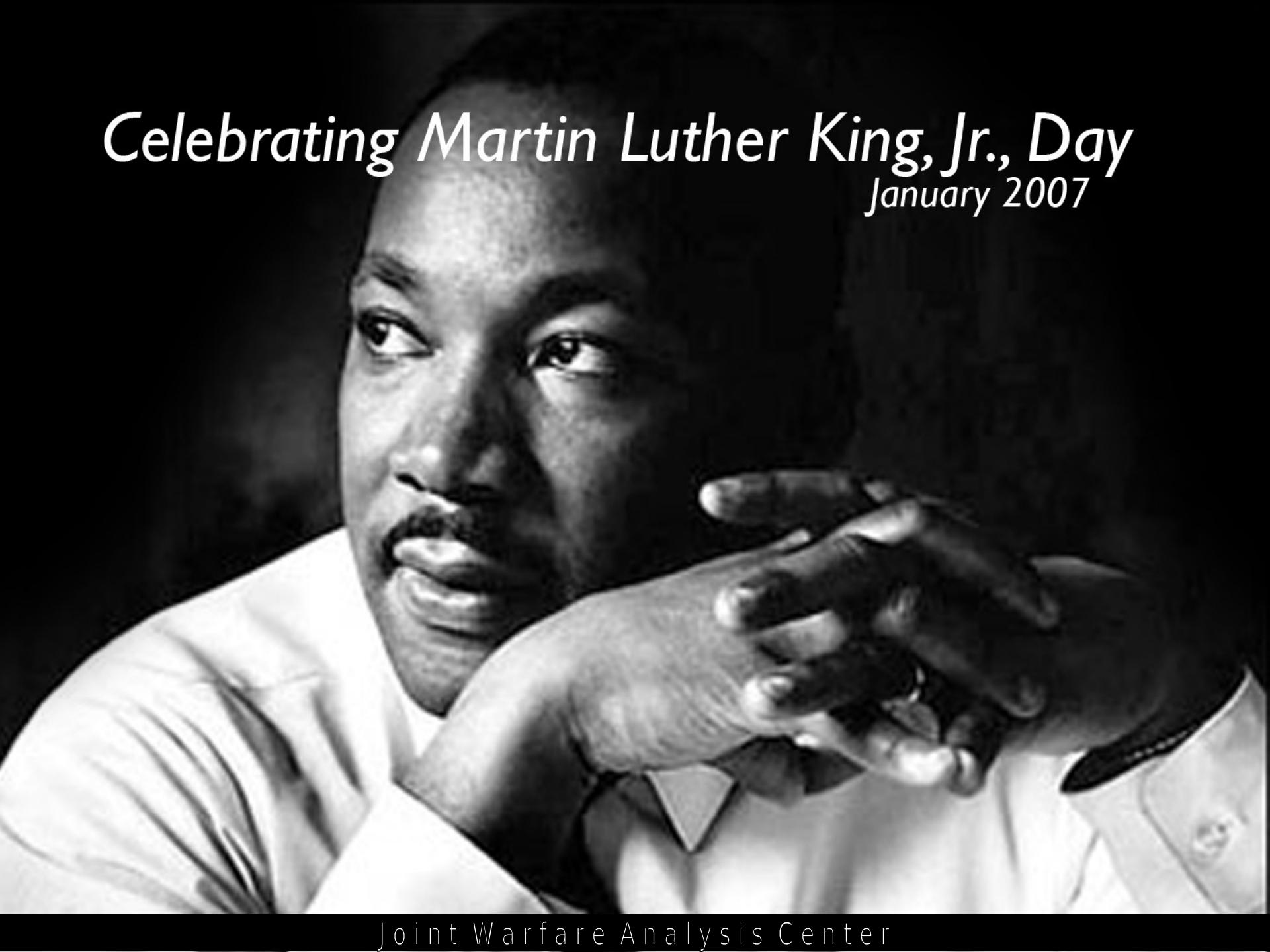
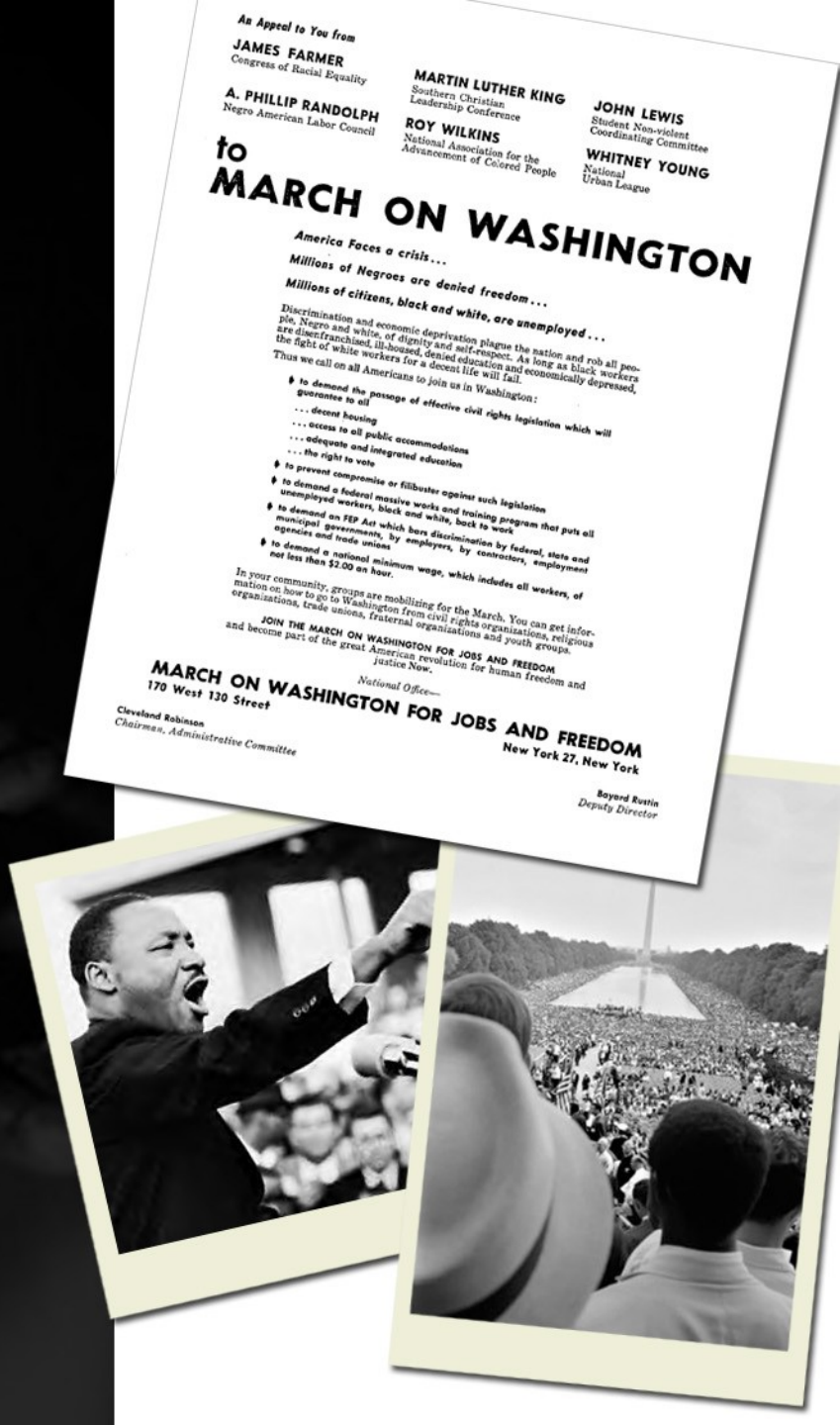

Celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr., Day
January 2007
Joint Warfare Analysis Center

Each year on the third Monday of January schools, federal offices, post offices, and banks across America close as we celebrate the life and the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Why do we celebrate it? What is it? What is it not?



An Appeal to You from

JAMES FARMER
Congress of Racial Equality

MARTIN LUTHER KING
Southern Christian Leadership Conference

JOHN LEWIS
Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee

A. PHILLIP RANDOLPH
Negro American Labor Council

ROY WILKINS
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

WHITNEY YOUNG
National Urban League

to

MARCH ON WASHINGTON

America Faces a crisis...

Millions of Negroes are denied freedom...

Millions of citizens, black and white, are unemployed...

Discrimination and economic deprivation plague the nation and rob all people, Negro and white, of dignity and self-respect. As long as black workers are disenfranchised, ill-housed, denied education and economically depressed, the fight of white workers for a decent life will fail.

Thus we call on all Americans to join us in Washington:

- **to demand the passage of effective civil rights legislation which will guarantee to all**
  - **... decent housing**
  - **... access to all public accommodations**
  - **... adequate and integrated education**
  - **... the right to vote**
- **to prevent compromise or filibuster against such legislation**
- **to demand a federal massive works and training program that puts all unemployed workers, black and white, back to work**
- **to demand an FEP Act which bars discrimination by federal, state and municipal governments, by employers, by contractors, employment agencies and trade unions**
- **to demand a national minimum wage, which includes all workers, of not less than $2.00 an hour.**

In your community, groups are mobilizing for the March. You can get information on how to go to Washington from civil rights organizations, religious organizations, trade unions, fraternal organizations and youth groups.

JOIN THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM and become part of the great American revolution for human freedom and justice Now.

National Office

MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM
170 West 130 Street
New York 27, New York

Cleveland Robinson
Chairman, Administrative Committee

Bayard Rustin
Deputy Director

First, what it is not:

It is not a black holiday.
It is not a yellow holiday.
It is not a brown holiday.
It is not a white holiday.

It is not a man's holiday.
It is not a woman's holiday.

It is not a baby boomer holiday.
It is not a generation X or Y holiday.

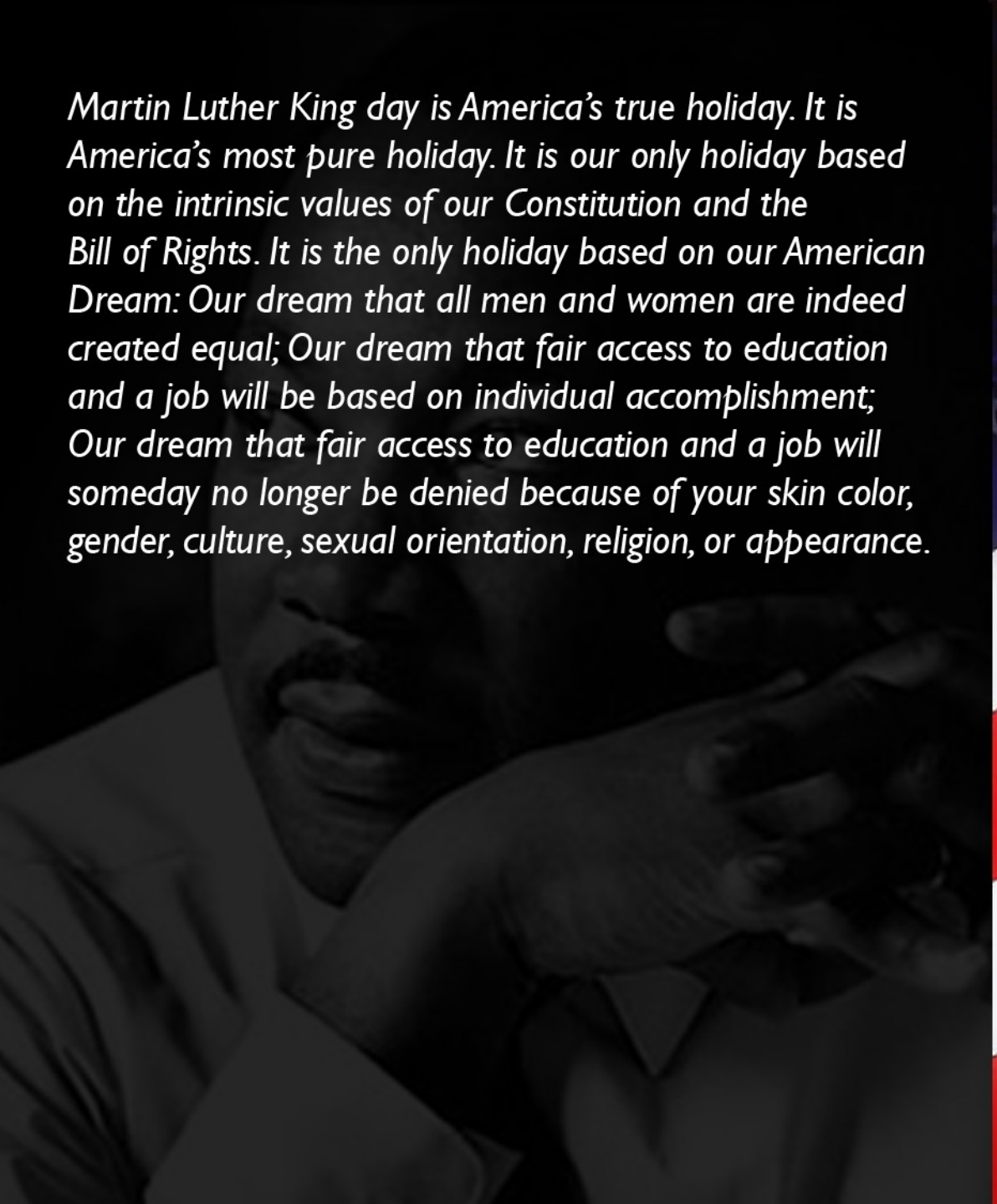
It is not a poor person's holiday.
It is not a rich person's holiday.

It is not a religious holiday.
It is not a commercial shopping holiday.
It is not a day off.

So, what is it?

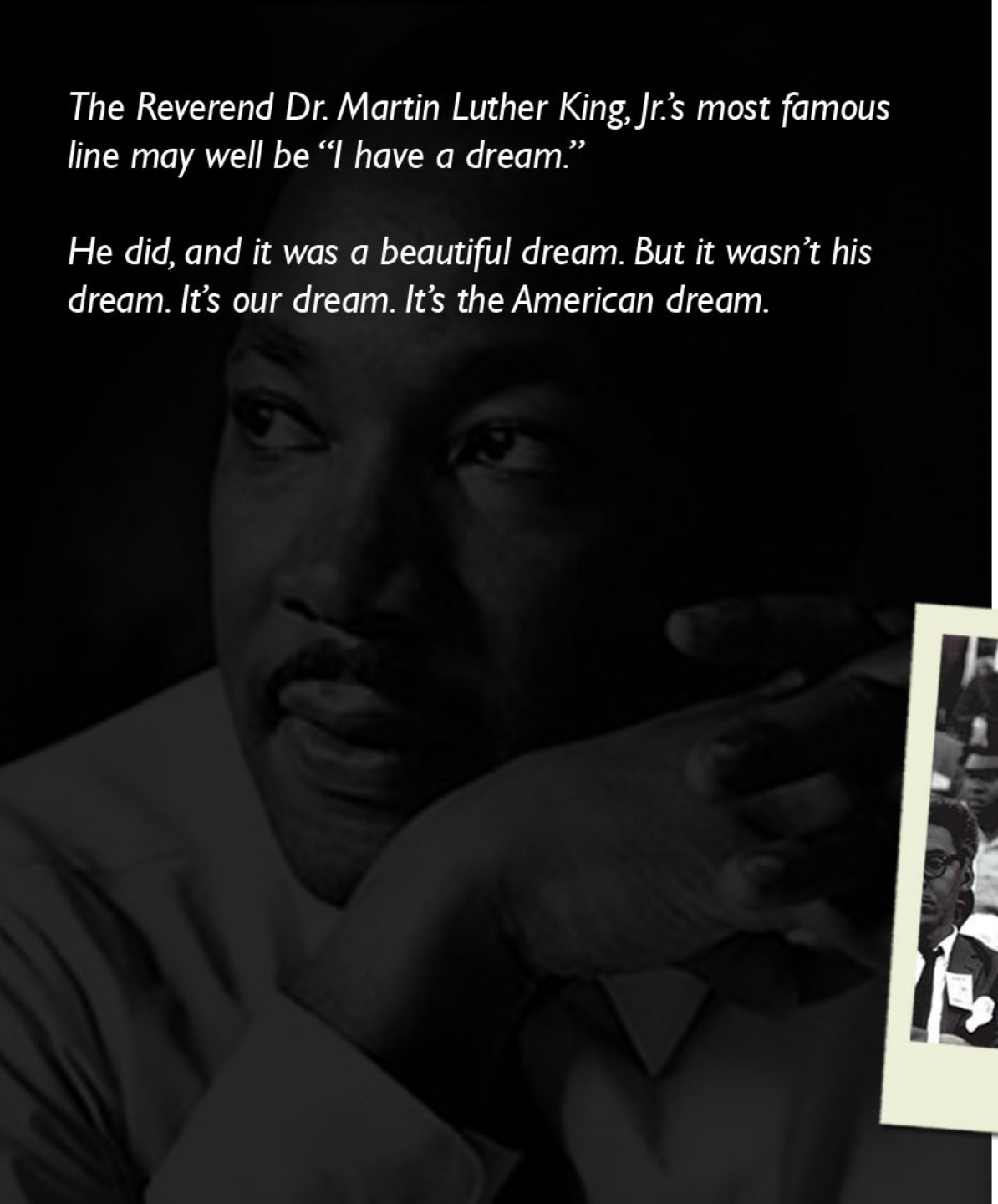
It is America's celebration.
It is each of our individual's day of celebration.
It is a moment of rejoicing for all Americans.
It is a moment of reflection for all Americans.
It is a moment of renewal on our long diversity journey.
It is a moment of challenge for each of us.

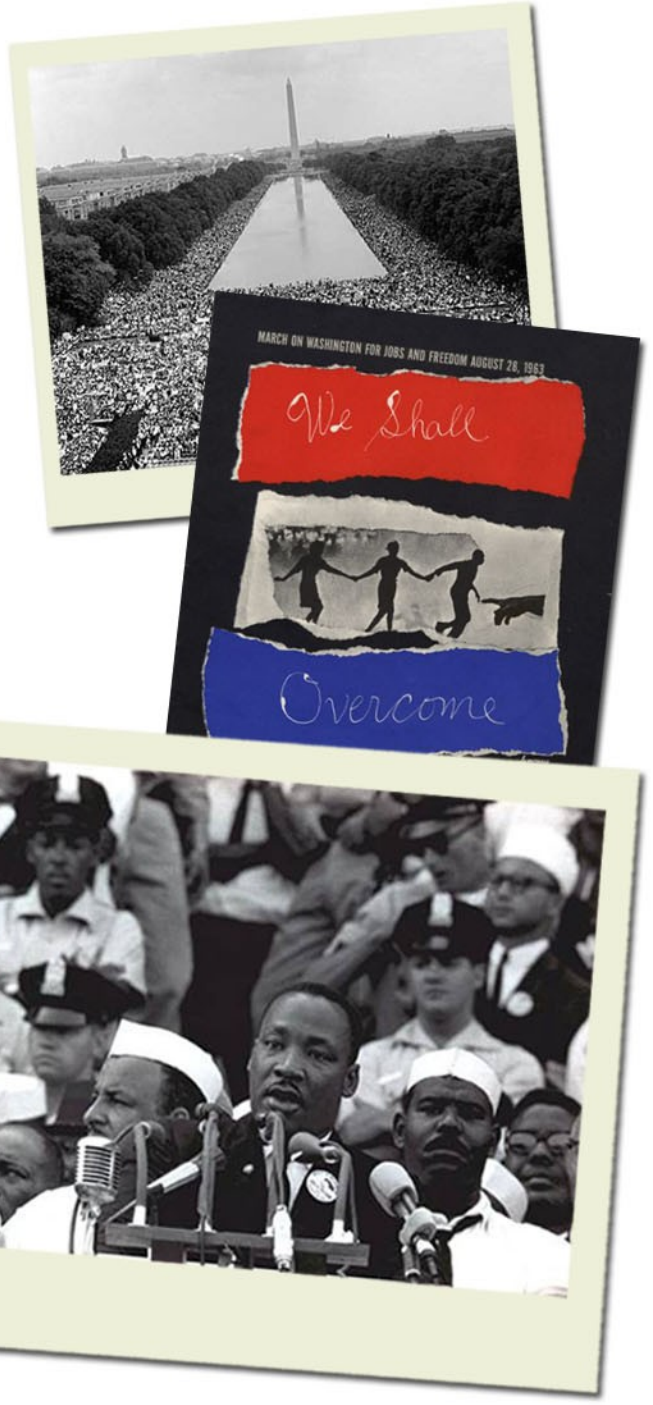
Martin Luther King day is America's true holiday. It is America's most pure holiday. It is our only holiday based on the intrinsic values of our Constitution and the Bill of Rights. It is the only holiday based on our American Dream: Our dream that all men and women are indeed created equal; Our dream that fair access to education and a job will be based on individual accomplishment; Our dream that fair access to education and a job will someday no longer be denied because of your skin color, gender, culture, sexual orientation, religion, or appearance.



The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s most famous line may well be "I have a dream."

He did, and it was a beautiful dream. But it wasn't his dream. It's our dream. It's the American dream.





Everyone has a stake in diversity. Everyone makes a difference. Every day you have opportunities to make a statement within your sphere of influence. Accept slurs, accept discrimination, accept intolerance, accept ignorance, and you condone and encourage it - you become part of the problem. Reject discrimination, slurs and intolerance, and you become part of the solution. Your life becomes richer.

For most of us, this means the little things in daily life. Things as simple as quietly walking away when somebody makes a sexist, racial or cultural joke.

In the end, we are talking about the Golden Rule.

Doing the right thing is usually no more complicated than treating other people the way you wish to be treated.

Always ask yourself: If I was in her or his skin, and if I were in their circumstances, how would I want to be treated?

Do this and your life journey will be much richer and much fuller. And you become an effective soldier in America's battle to preserve and enhance our great and wonderful experiment - the American democracy - the American dream.

As our American hero, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., once said, "The time is always right to do the right thing."

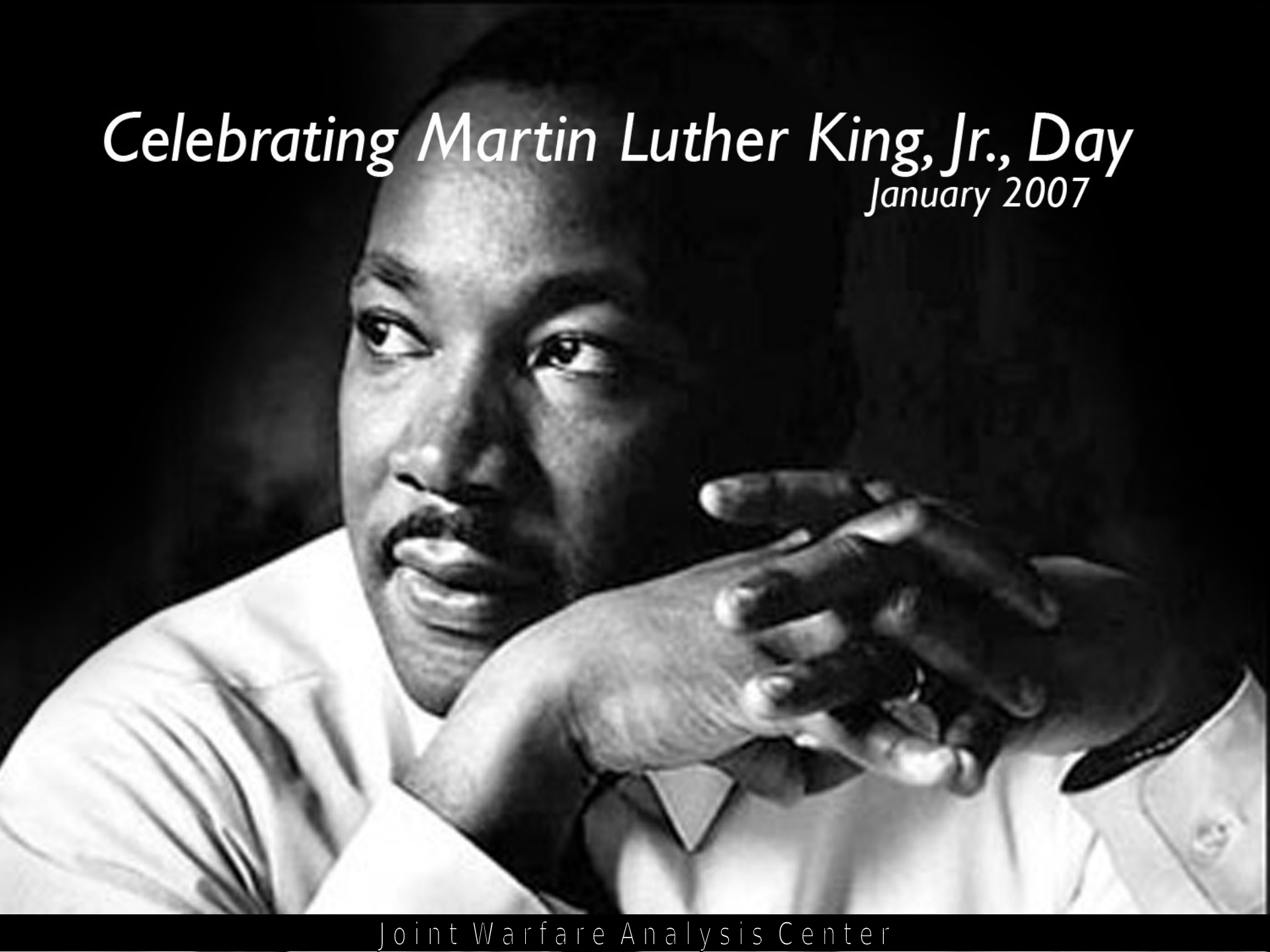
GOLDEN Rule

Our challenge, yours and mine, today is to accept the responsibility as American citizens to embrace our democracy and our Constitution. And to accept the American dream that all men and women are created equal. It is the only way our democracy and our way of life will survive.

To exclude people from the dream, as we have done and still do, is to undermine and eventually destroy our quality of life.

Why? Because people who don't have a stake in our dream, people who feel hopeless, helpless and discriminated against, will in the end not support the dream or the democracy.

Let Freedom Ring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